



Drawing with Mr. J!

A Pencil Party

Today's challenge is "a pencil party." Mr. J invites students to draw along as they identify how we should learn about different celebrations and how we should respond in these different settings. He discusses how we all want to be celebrated in a way that makes us feel comfortable, and sometimes it is as easy as asking what someone else wants on their special day.

Ohio SEL Standards

- **Self-Awareness:**
A1.2.b: Identify that emotions are valid, even if others feel differently
- **Social Awareness:**
C4. 1.a Recognize social cues in different settings

This video aligns with Ohio's Early Learning and Development Standard, Social & Emotional Development, Self-Awareness: 1.a. Develops and expands understanding of oneself as a unique person (Pre-Kindergarten).

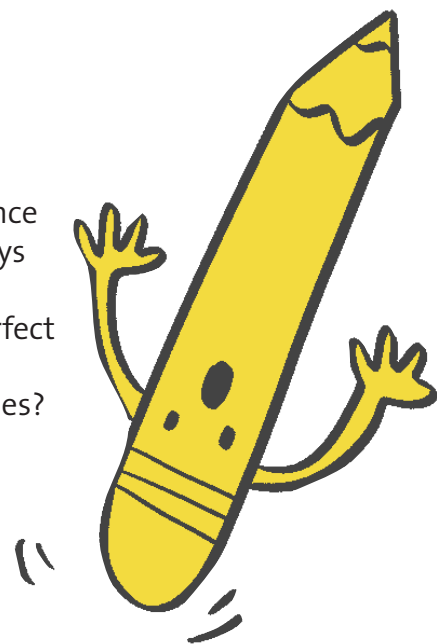
View and Sketch: *5 minutes*

Distribute sticky notes or small scraps of paper to your students and allow them to sketch along with Mr. J as they watch the video. We encourage you to share students' work on Instagram @wosuclassroom #DrawingWithMrJ.

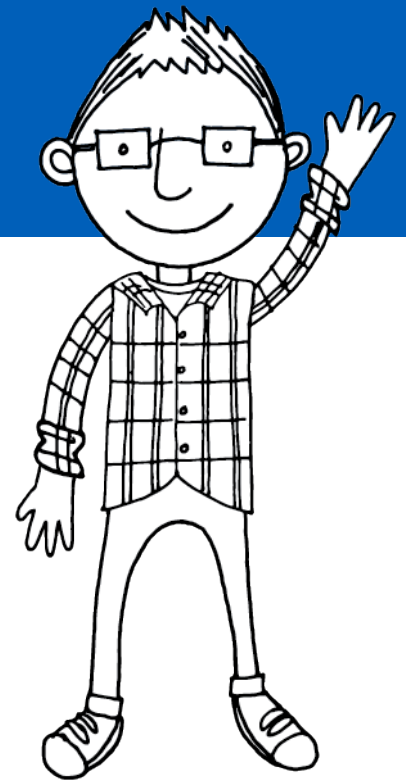
Chat: *5-10 minutes*

After viewing the video with the class, choose 1-2 discussion questions to work through in whole or small groups or as a writing prompt.

- **Help students identify emotions.** What emotions do you experience when you attend a party or celebration? Do these emotions always feel comfortable or do you sometimes feel uncomfortable?
- **Identify what prompts our emotions.** If you were to plan your perfect celebration, what would you do and what would you not want to experience? How would it feel if someone didn't honor your wishes?
- **Promote awareness and/or empathy.** Has there ever been a time that someone was not having fun at a party or celebration you were attending? Was there something that made them uncomfortable? Too much noise, bright lights, or everyone staring at them? What are some ways you could help support someone who was feeling this way?



Drawing with Mr. J!



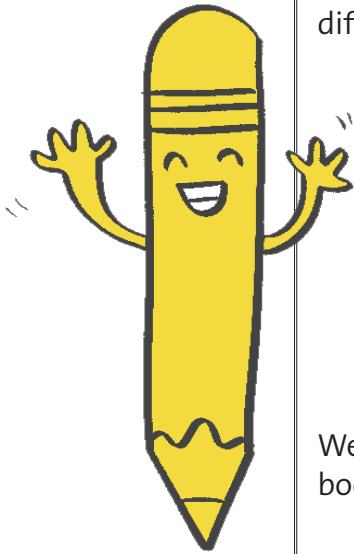
Read: 10 minutes

Use these picture books to spark continued conversation with students about the feelings discussed in the video.

- *Scaredy Squirrel has a Birthday Party* by Melanie Watt
- *We're Having a Party for Everyone* by Katie Vernon
- *Boa's Bad Birthday* by Jeanne Willis and Tony Ross
- *Happy Birthday Cupcake* by Terry Border

Share: (Home to School Connection)

To strengthen the home to school connection, keep families informed about the work happening in the classroom. Feel free to copy or adjust the following message to include in class newsletters.



Today, your child learned about having empathy and understanding when attending different types of celebrations. Our class discussion focused on:

- **Helping students identify emotions.** What emotions do you experience when you attend a party or celebration? Do these emotions always feel comfortable or do you sometimes feel uncomfortable?
- **Identifying what prompts our emotions.** If you were to plan your perfect celebration, what would you do and what would you not want to experience?
- **Promoting awareness and/or empathy.** Has there ever been a time that someone was not having fun at a party or celebration you were attending? What are some ways you could help support someone who was feeling this way?

We encourage you to continue the conversation at home. There are many wonderful books that explore different family traditions. A few that we recommend include:

- *Scaredy Squirrel has a Birthday Party* by Melanie Watt
- *We're Having a Party for Everyone* by Katie Vernon
- *Boa's Bad Birthday* by Jeanne Willis and Tony Ross
- *Happy Birthday Cupcake* by Terry Border

Extend:

- Students design a perfect party for a favorite animal, book character, or themselves complete with activities, menu, and decorations.
- Research one of the many "recognition days" for school staff members there are throughout the school year. Plan a celebration that is fitting for a staff member on this day with the things that would make that person super happy.
- Make a chart of everyone's favorite holidays and celebrations. Discuss how these experiences are different and how are they the same?
- As a class, research different types of celebrations that involve dancing from around the world. Try out some of these dances together.
- PBS for Kids Games with Emotions (for younger students) [wosu.org/pbskids/games](https://www.wosu.org/pbskids/games)